

From: Steve Phillips
To: Nancy Rumrill/R9/USEPA/US|||EPA
Date: 06/16/2009 05:56 PM
Subject: Wastewater Public Hearing

To: Nancy Rumrill (rumrill.nancy@epa.gov).

From: Upcountry Sustainability (Maui)

Re: Request for Public Hearing and Opportunity to Testify on Lahaina Wastewater Injection Wells Permit

Date: [before June 23, 2009]

Dear Ms. Rumrill,

On behalf of Upcountry Sustainability, a group of Maui residents, committed to building a sustainable community, I would like to respectfully request that EPA conduct a public hearing on the Lahaina wastewater injection well 10-year permit that EPA has proposed approving. I would further like to request the opportunity for a representative of Upcountry Sustainability to testify at that hearing.

We believe that EPA's decision on the Lahaina permit is likely to have implications for the permit applications to follow for Kihei and Kahului's wastewater injection wells. Moreover, we believe that each of these decisions could have significant implications for the water supply that is (or is not) available for various important uses in the upcountry area and for ensuring a sustainable future. Some 1,900 communities around the country have found alternative, productive uses for the effluent other than disposal, and Maui County itself is successfully reclaiming and reusing some of its wastewater rather than disposing of it in these injection wells.

Accordingly, we want to ensure that the public, including our members, and others interested in a wise, appropriate, and sustainable use of resources have the opportunity to better understand the implications of the Lahaina permit, set forth our concerns about the adequacy of Maui's water supply, and discuss how creative solutions can be developed to provide more safe and beneficial re-use of the wastewater and ensure a more sustainable Maui and upcountry community.

We appreciate EPA's consideration of these requests.

Sincerely,

Steve Phillips

for Upcountry Sustainability

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